

Mr Chickels-Flowden, then Resident in Kashmir, 643
 very kindly put us up in Srinagar. The first thing
 to be done was to pay my respects to the Maharaja,
 which I did in company with the Resident. My
 reception was exceedingly warm and cordial; an old-
 established friendship of many years' standing had
 existed between the Maharaja's father and mine, and
 this was extended at once to the next generation.
 I found the Maharaja's brothers, Raja Ram Singh,
 the Commander-in-Chief of the Kashmir State, and
 Raja Amar Singh, who shortly after became Prime
 Minister and President of the State Council, equally
 disposed to be friendly. The acquaintance so aus-
 piciously begun, ripened, I am glad to think, into
 warm regard and friendship, and during the five
 years I was connected with the affairs of Kashmir
 I received, however inconvenient my demands may
 have sometimes been, the heartiest assistance.

I found the Maharaja quite satisfied with the 114
 idea of my going to Gilgit, and, if necessary, on to [726] •
 Chitral, but he was very averse to my going to
 Chaprot. This was the frontier fort out of which
 the Kashmir garrison had been turned by the
 Hunza-Nagar combination during the preceding
 winter, and the Maharaja had not yet heard of its
 having been re-occupied by his forces. He was very
 averse, therefore, to my adventuring myself north
 of Gilgit, and as I, on my part, had not the
 least anxiety to have my throat cut, or to fall a
 prisoner into the hands of the tribesmen and to
 bring difficulties on Government, it was agreed
 that my movements, after my arrival at Gilgit,
 should depend on the position of the Maharaja's